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# Un elephant ça trompe

## History & Description

This song is a play on words. The word for elephant trunk in French is “trompe.” The word for trick (as in to deceive) in French is also “trompe.”

To reinforce the double meaning of the word *trompe*, show the kids a picture of an elephant (you can use the one from the worksheet if you like) and ask them where *la trompe* is. Explain that when something tricks, we also say *ça trompe*.

## Video links

This one from [Comptines et Chansons](http://www.comptines-et-chansons.com) starts at 1 and goes to 7, then skips to 10, then to one million *éléphants*. It shows the elephants running and painting:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ib3zBfCY3AE>

*Before playing the first video, get some clean socks and have the kids hold them up to their noses as trunks. Each time the song adds an elephant, have one more child get up and start dancing to the music. When you run out of kids, they can all keep dancing. Ridiculously simple and silly, but a huge hit with the test kids!*

This one from [Mister Toony](http://www.mister-toony.com) draws elephants and has no reference to painting, but it’s shorter than the first one: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lo5RuRFi3yc>

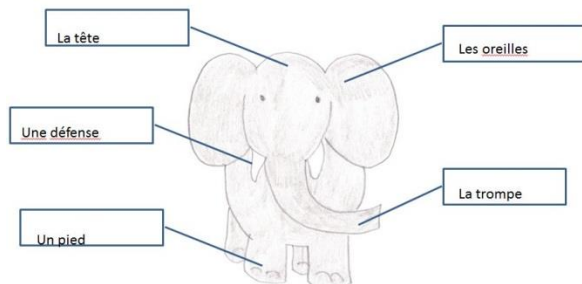
## Sheet music

Mama Lisa: <http://www.mamalisa.com/?t=fm&p=936&c=125>

Thierry Maucarré (scroll down to number 8): <http://www.etab.ac-caen.fr/apiedu/eps/exdocs/rondes-jeux-dances.htm>

## Worksheet solution

(Elephant circle is optional)



## Activities

Practice counting to 10 in French (or go higher if your students know these numbers already.) We sat in a circle with each person saying one number in sequence until we got as high as we wanted to go.

Do you agree that oil painting is plus beau (nicer looking)? – show examples of oil paintings and water paintings and discuss:

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=images+animal+oil+painting&client=firefox-a&hs=M1n&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=PFhXUsndG-nWyQHTv4CABQ&ved=0CC4QsAQ&biw=1536&bih=694&dpr=1.25>

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=images+animal+watercolor+painting&client=firefox-a&hs=11n&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=ZVhXUujGKsfayAHWhYEo&ved=0CC4QsAQ&biw=1536&bih=694&dpr=1.25>

Have the kids do a watercolour painting (or oil, if you're really adventurous!).

## Lyrics

<p><b>French:</b> Un éléphant, ça trompe, ça trompe Un éléphant, ça trompe énormément</p> <p>Chorus: La peinture à huile C'est bien difficile Mais c'est bien plus beau Que la peinture à l'eau</p> <p>Deux éléphants, ça trompe, ça trompe Deux éléphants, ça trompe énormément</p> <p>Trois éléphants, ça trompe, ça trompe Trois éléphants, ça trompe énormément</p> <p>Quatre éléphants... Cinq éléphants... Six éléphants... Sept éléphants... Huit éléphants... Neuf éléphants... Dix éléphants...</p>	<p><b>English:</b> One elephant, it tricks, it tricks One elephant, it tricks enormously</p> <p>Chorus: Oil painting It's very difficult But it's much more beautiful Than watercolour painting</p> <p>Two elephants, they trick, they trick Two elephants, they trick enormously</p> <p>Three elephants, they trick, they trick Three elephants, they trick enormously</p> <p>Four elephants... Five elephants... Six elephants... Seven elephants... Eight elephants... Nine elephants... Ten elephants...</p> <p><i>You can continue on forever if you like!</i></p>
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## Un elephant ça trompe

Encerle ceux qui trompent:



## Que préfères-tu?

La peinture à l'huile



Exemple – *Mona Lisa* par Leonardo da Vinci  
(Source – Wikipedia)

La peinture à l'eau



Exemple – *Le Bateau Bleu* par Winslow Homer  
(Source – Wikipedia)

Un elephant ça trompe (page 2)

Nomme les parties de l'éléphant

